

HOUSE BLESSING

Adapted from Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers
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297-301



[All] In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

[Leader] Peace be with this house and with all who live here. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

[All] Amen.

[Leader] When Christ took flesh through the Blessed Virgin Mary, He made His home with us. Let us now pray that He will enter this home and bless it with His presence. May He always be here among us; may He nurture our love for each other, share in our joys, and comfort us in our sorrows. Inspired by His teachings and example, let us seek to make our home before all else a dwelling place of love, diffusing far and wide the goodness of Christ.

[Reading by another family member]

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians

You are God's chosen race, His saints; He loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful. Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.

[All] Thanks be to God.

[All go from room to room, offering prayers of intercession and sprinkling holy water]

*[At the **entrance**]*

[Leader] O God, protect our going out and our coming in; let us share the hospitality of this home with all who visit us, that those who enter here may know your love and peace. Grant this through Christ our Lord. **[All]** Amen.

*[In the **living room**]*

[Leader] O God, give your blessings to all who share this room, that we may be knit together in companionship. Grant this through Christ our Lord. **[All]** Amen.

*[In the **kitchen**]*

[Leader] O God, you fill the hungry with good things. Send your blessing on us, as we work in this kitchen, and make us ever thankful for our daily bread. Grant this through Christ our Lord. **[All]** Amen.

*[In the **dining room**]*

[Leader] Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you give us food and drink to sustain our lives and make our hearts glad. Help us to be grateful for all your mercies, and mindful of the needs of others. Grant this through Christ our Lord. **[All]** Amen.

*[In the **bedrooms**]*

[Leader] Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake; watch over us as we sleep, that awake we may keep watch with Christ, and asleep, we may rest in His peace. Grant this through Christ our Lord. **[All]** Amen.

*[In the **bathroom**]*

[Leader] Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. You formed us in wisdom and love. Refresh us in body and in spirit, and keep us in good health that we might serve you. Grant this through Christ our Lord. **[All]** Amen.

[All return to the starting place]

[All] Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

[Leader] Be our shelter, Lord, when we are at home, our companion when we are away, and our welcome Guest when we return, and at last receive us into the dwelling place You have prepared for us in Your Father's house, where You live for ever and ever. **[All]** Amen.

[All make the sign of the cross as the leader concludes] May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, and may the word of Christ in all its richness dwell in us, so that whatever we do in word and in work, we will do in the name of the Lord. **[All]** Amen.

A SIMPLE EXORCISM

(Published by Order of His Holiness Pope Leo XIII)



St Benedict Crucifix medal

The following is a simple exorcism prayer that can be said by priests or laity.

** Lay people omit the words in brackets below.*

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Most glorious Prince of the Heavenly Armies, Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in “our battle against principalities and powers, against the rulers of this world of darkness, against the spirits of wickedness in the high places” (Eph. 6, 12). Come to the assistance of men whom God has created to His likeness and whom He has redeemed at a great price from the tyranny of the devil. Holy Church venerates thee as her guardian and protector; to thee, the Lord has entrusted the souls of the redeemed to be led into heaven. Pray therefore the God of Peace to crush Satan beneath our feet, that he may no longer retain men captive and do injury to the Church. Offer our prayers to the Most High, that without delay they may draw His mercy down upon us; take hold of “the dragon, the old serpent, which is the devil and Satan”, bind him and cast him into the bottomless pit ... “that he may no longer seduce the nations” (Apoc. 20, 2-3).

Exorcism

In the Name of Jesus Christ, our God and Lord, strengthened by the intercession of the Immaculate Virgin Mary, Mother of God, of Blessed Michael the Archangel, of the Blessed Apostles Peter and Paul and all the Saints *(and powerful in the holy authority of our ministry)** we confidently undertake to repulse the attacks and deceits of the devil.

Psalm 67

God arises; His enemies are scattered and those who hate Him flee before Him. As smoke is driven away, so are they driven; as wax melts before the fire, so the wicked perish at the presence of God.

V. Behold the Cross of the Lord, flee bands of enemies.

R. The Lion of the tribe of Judah, the offspring of David, hath conquered.

V. May Thy mercy, Lord, descend upon us.

R. As great as our hope in Thee.

(The crosses below indicate a blessing to be given if a priest recites the Exorcism; if a lay person recites it, they indicate the Sign of the Cross to be made by that person and all present.)

We drive you from us, whoever you may be, unclean spirits, all satanic powers, all infernal invaders, all wicked legions, assemblies and sects. In the Name and by the power of Our Lord Jesus Christ, † may you be snatched away and driven from the Church of God and from the souls made to the image and likeness of God and redeemed by the Precious Blood of the Divine Lamb. †

Most cunning serpent, you shall no more dare to deceive the human race, persecute the Church, torment God's elect and sift them as wheat. † The Most High God commands you, † He with whom, in your great insolence, you still claim to be equal. "God who wants all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (I Tim. 2,4). God the Father commands you. † God the Son commands you. † God the Holy Ghost commands you. † Christ, God's Word made flesh, commands you; † He, who to save our race outdone through your envy, "humbled Himself, becoming obedient even unto death" (Phil.2,8); He, who has built His Church on the firm rock and declared that the gates of hell shall not prevail against Her, because He will dwell with Her "all days even to the end of the world" (Matt. 28,20). The sacred Sign of the Cross commands you, † as does also the power of the mysteries of the Christian Faith. † The glorious Mother of God, the Virgin Mary, commands you; † she who by her humility and from the first moment of her Immaculate Conception crushed your proud head. The faith of the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, and of the other Apostles commands you. † The blood of the Martyrs and the pious intercession of all the Saints command you. †

Thus, cursed dragon, and you, diabolical legions, we adjure you by the living God, † by the true God, † by the holy God, † by the God "who so loved the world that He gave up His only Son, that every soul believing in Him might not perish but have life everlasting" (John 3:16); stop deceiving human creatures and pouring out to them the poison of eternal damnation; stop harming the Church and hindering her liberty. Begone Satan, inventor and master of all deceit, enemy of man's salvation. Give place to Christ in Whom you have found none of your works; give place to the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church acquired by Christ at the price of His Blood. Stoop beneath the all-powerful Hand of God; tremble and flee when we invoke the Holy and terrible Name of Jesus, this Name which causes hell to tremble, this Name to which the Virtues, Powers and Dominations of heaven are humbly submissive, this Name which the Cherubim and Seraphim praise unceasingly repeating: Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord, the God of Hosts.

V. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto Thee.

V. May the Lord be with thee.

R. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

God of heaven, God of earth, God of Angels, God of Archangels, God of Patriarchs, God of Prophets, God of Apostles, God of Martyrs, God of Confessors, God of Virgins, God who has power to give life after death and rest after work: because there is no other God than Thee and there can be no other, for Thou art the Creator of all things, visible and invisible, of Whose reign there shall be no end, we humbly prostrate ourselves before Thy glorious Majesty and we beseech Thee to deliver us by Thy power from all the tyranny of the infernal spirits, from their snares, their lies and their furious wickedness. Deign, O Lord, to grant us Thy powerful protection and to keep us safe and sound. We beseech Thee through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

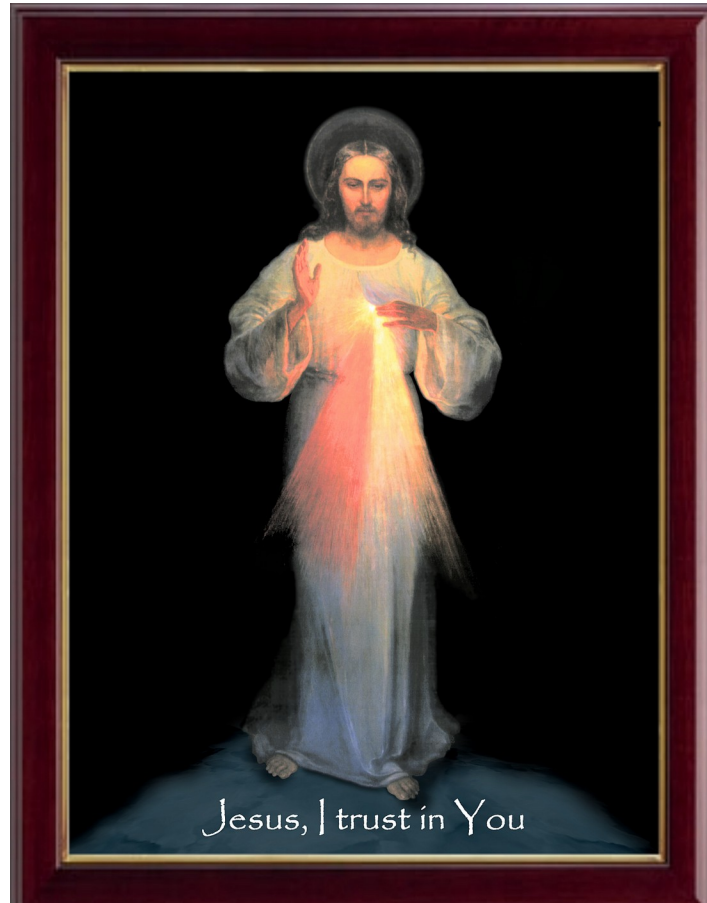
Amen.

V. From the snares of the devil: **R.** Deliver us, O Lord.

V. That Thy Church may serve Thee in peace and liberty: **R.** We beseech Thee to hear us.

V. That Thou may crush down all enemies of Thy Church: **R.** We beseech Thee to hear us.

BLESSING OF THE IMAGE OF DIVINE MERCY



The image is put in a place of honor. A candle may be lighted before it.

Almighty and Eternal Father, in your goodness, bless and sanctify this Image of The Divine Mercy, Your dearly beloved Son, which has been fashioned to reveal to us the great love of our Crucified and Risen Savior, The Divine Mercy Personified. Help us recall to our minds the streams of Blood and Water that had gushed forth from His pierced Heart to be for us a continuous fount of mercy. Grant to all who invoke Your Mercy with this Image before their eyes, the grace of true repentance, pardon and peace. Shield them from every danger to soul and body in this life.

Jesus, our loving Savior, establish in this Image the Throne of Your Mercy. Pour out upon all of us, who approach it with faith and trust, the purifying, healing and sanctifying rays of grace ever emanating from it as a blazing star. Gaze upon us as you did from the Cross with your great love and mercy so that we may be filled with your grace.

Through this Image, may Your Divine Mercy triumph over all the powers of evil. May all who venerate this Image never perish. May it be their joy in life, their hope in death, and their glory in eternity for ever and ever.

This we ask through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen!

The image is kissed by each person.

THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY



[Leader] In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. [All] Amen.

[Leader] Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. [All] Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

[Leader] Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. [All] Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

[Leader] I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. [All] I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

[Leader] Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

[Leader] For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, [All] have mercy on us and on the whole world.

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[All] Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

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O Blood and Water that gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of mercy for us, I trust in You.

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.